



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**  
**JOSEPH A. CURTATONE**  
**MAYOR**

*HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION*

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**ALTERATION TO A HISTORIC PROPERTY STAFF REPORT**

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Site / District(s):	11 Westwood Road 1897 Henry Carnes House	Westwood Road Local Historic District Westwood Road National Register District
Case:	HPC 2013.025	
Applicant Name:	Lucas Rogers	
Applicant Address:	11 Westwood Road, Somerville	
Date of Application:	May 30, 2013	
Legal Notice:	<i>Install dog gate on porch.</i>	
Staff Recommendation:	Certificate of Appropriateness	
Date of Public Hearing:	June 18, 2013	

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**I. Building Description**

*Architectural Description: The house is a 2 ½ story side-hall plan Colonial Revival/Shingle style with a large central dormer and salt box rear.*

*Historical Context/Evolution of Structure or Parcel:* Originally platted on the Shute Estate and Benton Farm originally used for dairy farming in 1874, Westwood Road was developed as one of Somerville's few exclusive residential enclaves. Westwood Road was replatted and developed by Charles Bradshaw, hardware dealer in 1894. A small adjoining section of Benton Road was laid out by Reuben Benton at about the same time. Bradshaw built eight houses all handsome examples of the Queen Anne/ Shingle Style and Colonial Revival Styles of architecture. Additional houses were constructed prior to 1905.



**II. Project Description**

*Proposal of Alteration:* Install a dog gate across the entry to the front porch similar to that seen on 12 Westwood Road. The gate will match the existing rails and balusters and usually kept in the open position.

### III. Findings for a Certificate of Appropriateness

#### 1. *Prior Certificates Issued/Proposed:*

2003.35		Lois Russell	C/A	1. Replace accordion fold garage doors with overhead doors to closely match existing; 2. Store the doors and hardware for future reuse; and 3. Document placement of hardware in situ.
2009.60	Repairs & Alterations	Chris Thompson	C/A	1. Rebuild the chimney from below the roof line with S or N mortar; 2. Strip 3-tab asphalt roof shingles; 3. Install ice and water shield, metal drip edges and copper flashing; 4. Install Cobra® ridge vent; 5. Replace the three-tab asphalt shingles with CertainTeed® Landmark™ 30 year architectural shingles; 6. Remove and replace rotted and damaged wood shingles as needed; and 7. Install new EPDM roofing on slightly hipped bay window on west side.
2009.70	Repair & Alteration	Christopher Thompson	C/A	1. Remove 3-tab asphalt roof shingles; 2. Install ice and water shield, metal drip edges and copper flashing; 3. Install Cobra® ridge vent; 4. Replace the three-tab asphalt roof shingles with CertainTeed® Landmark™ 30 year architectural roof shingles; and 5. Install new EPDM roofing on slightly hipped bay window on west side.
2011.054	Repairs	Luke Rogers	C/NA	1. Repair wood windows and casings in-kind; 2. Replace glass in-kind as necessary; and 3. Replace storm windows.
2012.053	Repairs	Lucas Rogers	C/NA	1. Remove and replace existing damage wood newels, lower fascia boards, stair treads and other damaged materials on the front porch with hardwood to match existing; and 2. Install trellis to support wisteria.
2013.024	Repairs	Lucas Rogers	C/NA	1. Replace metal flashing over 3 windows on the east side; 2. Replace wood shingles as needed; and 3. Replace wood fascia on the garage to match the existing fascia in materials and dimensions.

2. *Precedence:* There is an existing gate across the porch at 12 Westwood Road for which no Certificates or building permit was found. The gate follows the pattern establishes by the rails and balusters and blends with the porch.

#### 3. *Considerations:*

- *What is the visibility of the proposal?* The proposal is fully visible.

- *What are the Existing Conditions of the building / parcel?* The house is well maintained, however the owners have acquired a dog that we would like to allow onto the porch when they are in the garden.

*The primary purpose of the Preservation Ordinance is to encourage preservation and high design standards in Local Historic Districts, in order to safeguard the architectural heritage of the City. Guidelines have been developed to ensure that rehabilitation efforts, alterations, and new construction all respect the design fabric of the districts and do not adversely affect their present architectural integrity.*

- *Does the proposal coincide with the General Approach set forth in the Design Guidelines?*
  - D. When replacement of architectural features is necessary, it should be based on physical or documentary evidence of the original or later important features.*
  - E. Whenever possible, new materials should match the material being replaced with respect to their physical properties, design, color, texture and other visual qualities.*

The style and materials will match the existing porch fabric in design, color, texture and other visual qualities. The installation will be reversible.

- *Does the proposal coincide with the appropriate Specific Guidelines as set forth in the Design Guidelines?*

***D. Porches, steps, trim and other exterior architectural elements***

- 1. Retain and repair porches and steps that are original or later important features, including such items as railings, balusters, columns, posts, brackets, roofs, ornamental ironwork and other important decorative items. If new pieces are needed, they should match as closely as possible the style, shape, scale and materials of the old. Avoid replacing wood posts and railings with metal ones, or wood porch decks with concrete.*

The style and materials will match the existing porch fabric in design, color, texture and other visual qualities.

### **III. Recommendations**

*The Staff recommendation is based on a complete application and supporting materials, as submitted by the Applicant, and an analysis of the historic and architectural value and significance of the site, building or structure, the general design, arrangement, texture, material and color of the features involved, and the relation of such features of buildings and structures in the area, in accordance with the required findings that are considered by the Somerville Historic District Ordinance for a Historic District Certificate. This report may be revised or updated with new a recommendation or findings based upon additional information provided to Staff or through more in depth research conducted during the public hearing process.*

Staff determines that the alteration for which an application for a Historic Certificate has been filed is appropriate for and compatible with the preservation and protection of the Westwood Road Local Historic District; therefore **Staff recommends that the Historic Preservation Commission grant Lucas Rogers a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a dog containment gate at the top of the steps on the porch of 11 Westwood Road with rails and balusters to match the existing.**

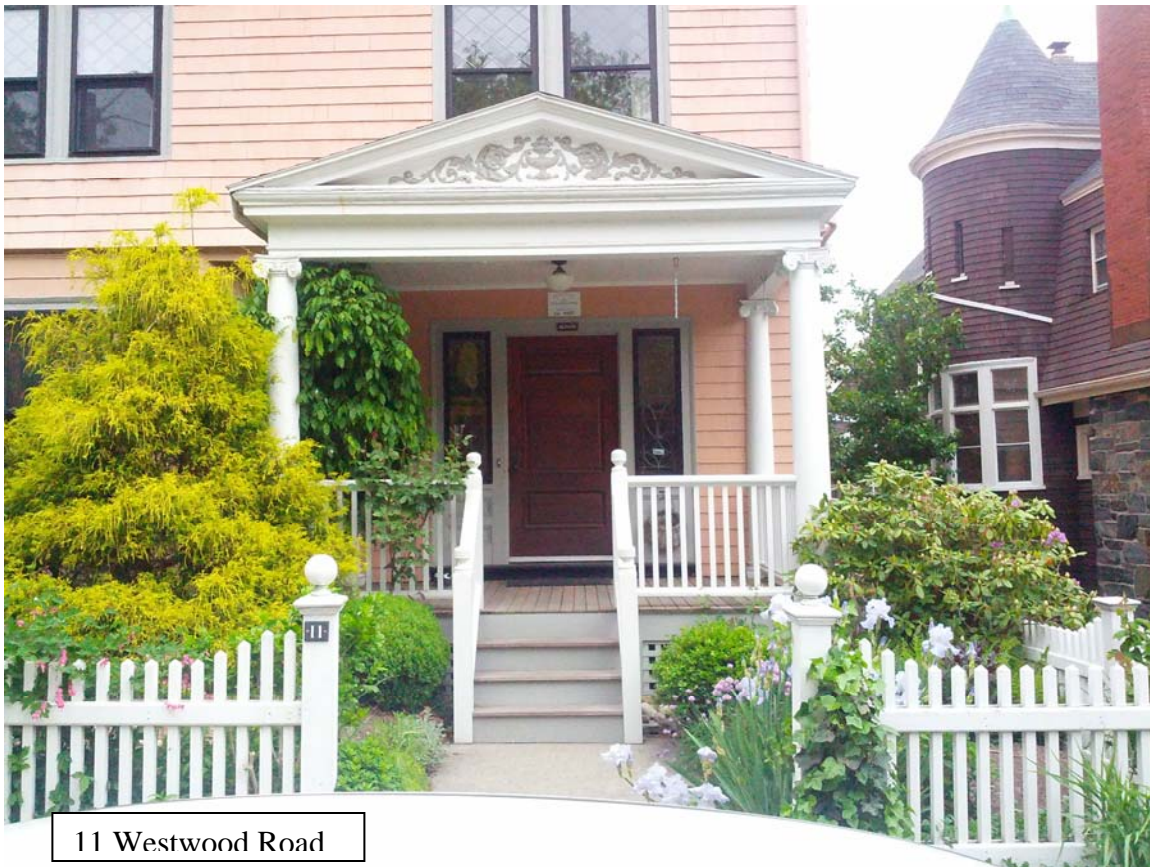


Green = the recently designated Central Atherton Spring LHD

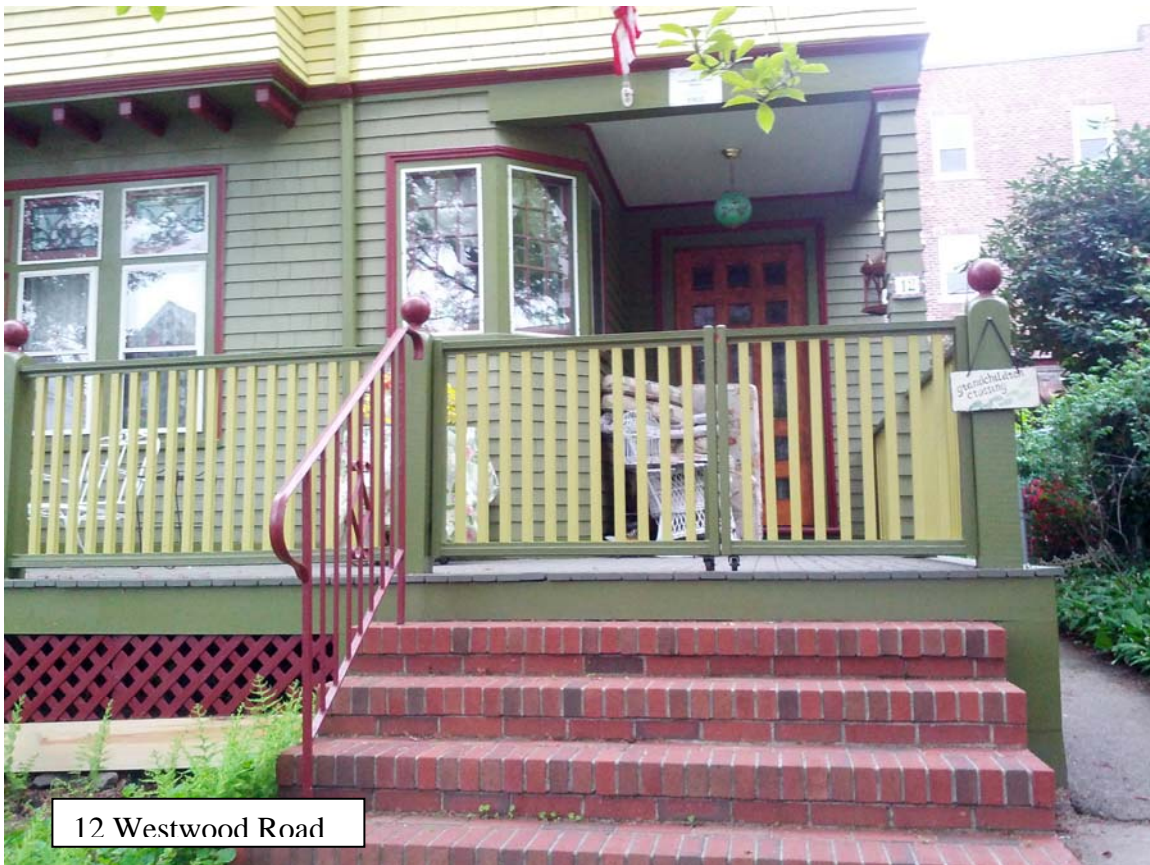
Blue = the older individually designated LHDs and the Chestnut Court LHD

Pink = Westwood Road LHD





11 Westwood Road



12 Westwood Road